

Wednesday 8th February 2023

Community Pharmacy Somerset Bulletin

This briefing is critical reading as it contains important information and actions required to support you, your team and your business.

Dear Community Pharmacy Somerset contractor colleagues,

Welcome to the latest edition of the Somerset LPC bulletin; thank you for everything you continue to do to provide first class services to the population of our beautiful county.

In this edition we are encouraging everyone to complete the 2023 Pharmacy Pressures Survey - this is very important - we need you all to take part:

- Community pharmacy owners and teams across England are facing unprecedented financial and operational challenges and raising this with the Government and the NHS remains the top priority of LPCs, PSNC and other national pharmacy organisations; working both to show policy makers the severity of the problems and to lobby for Government and NHS action to ease the pressures.
- The [2023 Pharmacy Pressures Survey](#) will inform this work, therefore we are asking everyone who works in or owns a community pharmacy to take part. The survey results will be critical to help us to show the Government and the NHS how difficult things now are for pharmacy teams, and to persuade them to take action.
- The Pharmacy Pressures Survey consists of two surveys to provide insight into both financial and operational pressures. The surveys have been made as short as possible and should take around 15 minutes to complete. They will be open for completion until Monday 20th February.
 - [The Pharmacy teams survey can be accessed here.](#)
 - [The Pharmacy business owners/head office representatives' survey can be accessed here.](#)

The message is stronger with everyone's voice together so please complete the survey relevant to your role(s)

In this edition we continue to outline your current priorities for the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2022-23. We also draw your attention to:

- [PSNC 2023 Data Security and Protection Toolkit webinar](#)
- [HEE Clinical examination skills training for community pharmacists - we strongly advise you to take up this funded opportunity – limited places available.](#)
- [Newly qualified pharmacist programme cohort 4 open for applications](#)
- [National Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Recruitment 2024-25 intake via Oriel.](#)

We hope you enjoy this bulletin and find it helpful.

Kindest regards. Community Pharmacy Somerset.

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*****IMPORTANT ACTIONS FOR ALL PHARMACIES*****

NHS.net email is used for essential services such as Turning Point, GP-CPCS referrals outside of Somerset and in cases of PharmOutcomes outage. Please continue to remind your whole team, including relief staff and all locums, to check your NHS.NET email regularly throughout each day your pharmacy is open and action the messages.

Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2022-23



Pharmaceutical Services
Negotiating Committee

PSNC's [PQS hub page](#) continues to be updated as additional information, resources and FAQs to support the PQS 2022-23 are published.

Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) - Introduction

The Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) forms part of the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF). It supports delivery of the NHS Long Term Plan and rewards community pharmacy contractors that deliver quality criteria.

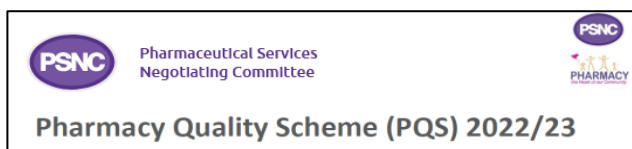
- In previous years Somerset community pharmacy contractors have been amazing by achieving the criteria, supporting patients and claiming all PQS payments that they can.

- Your LPC appreciates that many contractors will also be looking to their HQ for specific PQS completion guidance; we would also flag that those independents who are NPA members will be receiving PQS support packs too.

If you have any questions about the PQS 2022-23 please contact: yvonne.somersetlpc@gmail.com or michael.somersetlpc@gmail.com

Resources to support you:

➤ PSNC PQS 2022-23 Digital guide, workbook and other resources:



PSNC has published a range of resources to support you to meet the requirements of the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2022-23 including:

- [PSNC PQS 2022-23 Digital Guide](#) that walks you through each of the requirements of the scheme.
- [PSNC Briefing 031/22: Pharmacy Quality Scheme – Summary of the training requirements for the 2022-23 scheme.](#)
- [PSNC Action and Evidence Portfolio Workbook](#) containing questions for you and your team to find out if you are meeting the requirements of the gateway/domains, and much more.
- [PSNC PQS 2022-23 page](#) containing further information, resources and links to support you through the PQS 2022-23.

1. Current priorities in the PQS 2022-23 for you to focus on now [Action]



Date	Actions
From 16 Jan 2023 - NHS Profile manager can be updated	<p>Addressing Unwarranted Variation in Care domain - Palliative and End of Life Care Action Plan</p> <p>As soon as possible after 16 Jan 2023 and by the end of 31 Mar 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You must update your NHS Profile Manager if you routinely hold the 16 palliative and end of life critical medicines listed below and in the in the PQS Drug Tariff and support local access to parenteral haloperidol. If NHS Profile Manager is updated centrally by your head office, it will need to be confirmed that this will be done by the end of 31 Mar 2023. <p>The 16 critical end of life medicines are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cyclizine solution for injection ampoules 50mg/1ml Cyclizine tablets 50mg Dexamethasone solution for injection ampoules 3.3mg/1ml Dexamethasone tablets 2mg

- Haloperidol tablets 500 mcg
- Hyoscine butylbromide solution for injection 20mg/1ml
- Levomepromazine solution for injection ampoules 25mg/1ml
- Metoclopramide solution for injection ampoules 10mg/2ml
- Midazolam solution for injection ampoules 10mg/2ml
- Morphine sulfate oral solution 10g/5ml
- Morphine sulfate solution for injection ampoules 10mg/1ml
- Morphine sulfate solution for injection ampoules 30mg/1ml
- Oxycodone solution for injection ampoules 10mg/1ml
- Oxycodone oral solution sugar free 5mg/5ml
- Sodium chloride 0.9% solution for injection ampoules 10ml
- Water for injections 10ml.

- If you are not a stockholder of these 16 palliative and end of life critical medicines, you are not required to update NHS Profile Manager. But by the end of 31 Mar 2023, you must have a **Palliative and end of life care action plan** in place to use when you do not have the required stock of the 16 critical medicines listed above or parenteral haloperidol available for a patient.
- The action plan must include collated information from pharmacies in your area to be able to aid a patient, relative/carer in obtaining medication as swiftly as possible by redirecting them to the nearest open community pharmacy that stocks the 16 critical end of life medicines and/or parenteral haloperidol.
- The action plan for 2022-23 must be available for inspection from the end of 31 Mar 2023 at premises level.

The action plan must include:

- An awareness of any locally commissioned services for palliative care including any on call and delivery arrangements.
- A list of community pharmacies stocking the 16 critical medicines for palliative/end of life care in your area and noting the ability to check the Directory of Services (DoS) to find pharmacies stocking these medicines.
- Details of where parenteral haloperidol can be accessed locally, e.g. through any local commissioning arrangements.
- Awareness of other support services that may be useful for patients/relatives/carers.

See the following resources for full details:

- Page 13 of the [Drug Tariff Part VIIA - Pharmacy Quality Scheme \(England\) 2022-23](#)
- Addressing Unwarranted Variation in Care domain of the [PSNC Pharmacy Quality Scheme website](#) for full details

**PQS:
Antibiotic
Review Data
Published**

- The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) has published a spreadsheet showing which pharmacies have submitted data for their antibiotic review as part of the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2022/23.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the spreadsheet, contractors have been allocated either a green, orange or red colour. As previously advised, the deadline to start the audit was 04 Feb 2023 Find out more here.
06 Feb 2023 – PQS declaration window is open.	<p>PQS 2022-23 declaration period opens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You must claim payment to the NHSBSA using the MYS application for the PQS 2022-23 during the declaration period which is between 9am on 06 Feb 2023 and 11.59pm on 03 Mar 2023. You must have evidence to demonstrate meeting the gateway criteria and the domains that you have claimed for by the end of 31 Mar 2023. NHSBSA has published the questions which will be included in the 2022-23 PQS declaration so you can view these ahead of making your declaration. The questions are available on the NHSBSA PQS hub page; you should scroll down to the 'Declaration questions' section where you can access the questions in a Word document. Find out more about making a PQS Declaration at PSNC website

2. CPPE resources to support the PQS 2022-23 [Action]



Pharmacy Quality Scheme

[Home](#)
[Risk management and safeguarding](#)
[Respiratory](#)
[Healthy living support](#)
[Prevention](#)

- CPPE has provided [Pharmacy Quality Scheme webpages](#) to support you to meet the training requirements of the scheme.
- There is a page for each domain including information on the learning and assessments developed or hosted by CPPE and/or links to required learning from other providers, as relevant.
- One of the key differences in this year's PQS compared to previous years is the inclusion of 'validity periods' for learning. This means that you may be required to repeat training and e-assessments that you have completed previously, depending on the stated validity period and when you last completed the training and e-assessments.
- CPPE has included a **useful tracker** on the [PQS home page](#) to help you to easily identify which learning and e-assessments you need to complete to meet the requirements of the PQS 2022-23. The tracker works for GPhC registered pharmacy professionals and non-registrants with a [non-GPhC registrant account](#).

Operations

1. National audit 2022/23 – valproate [Action]



- By 31 March 2023, all community pharmacy contractors must have completed the 2022/23 national clinical audit on valproate, over a six-week consecutive period. The audit aims to reduce the potential harm caused by taking valproate during pregnancy.
- For contractors who have not yet commenced the audit, the last day on which you can start the audit and complete it by the deadline is 18 February 2023.

- [Find out more and access the resources at the PSNC website.](#)
- 2. NHS Digital merged into NHS England [Information]**
- From this month, the teams and responsibilities of NHS Digital have been absorbed into NHS England. This follows a review into enabling digital transformation in the NHS in line with the objectives of the NHS Long Term Plan.
 - NHS England's digital teams will now run the systems which support NHS IT in the community pharmacy sector and beyond, with all NHS IT programmes due to continue operating as they were before.
 - [Find out more here.](#)

Finance

1. PSNC 2023 Data Security and Protection Toolkit webinar [Information]

- PSNC will be holding a webinar on Thursday 23rd February at 7pm to help you to complete the Data Security and Protection Toolkit for 2022/23.
- During the webinar, representatives from PSNC and NHS Digital will discuss the Toolkit questions, talk you through the available guidance materials and answer questions about making the declaration.
- [Register for the webinar here.](#)

Professional development and wellbeing

1. Newly qualified pharmacist programme cohort 4 open for applications [Action]



- This twelve-month programme is fully-funded by Health Education England (HEE) as part of the [Newly Qualified Pharmacist pathway \(NQPP\)](#), which aims to link the initial education and training of pharmacists (IETP) reforms to a continuum of development into post-registration and acts as a stepping-stone towards enhanced and advanced practice.
- The programme is designed to support newly qualified pharmacists to become better equipped and confident to adapt and deliver safe and effective patient care at this pivotal stage of their career and prepare to train as an independent prescriber to complete their NQPP.

Who is eligible to apply?

- The programme is for:
 - Pharmacists who have registered with the GPhC since 2020 and are employed or work self-employed as a locum in community pharmacy (except Boots, who run their own programme), or
 - Primary care (PCN or GP practice), or
 - Health in justice.
 - Pharmacists who have registered before 2020 and are returning from a career break or changing sectors are also eligible to apply.
- If you know anyone who is eligible, please pass this information on to them.

Benefits of joining the programme:

- **A flying start to your professional development journey**
- **Structured professional development**
- **Education supervisor support**

- **E-portfolio to record your evidence**
- **Increased confidence**
- **It is a fully funded programme provided especially for you.**

Key dates for cohort 4

- Applications opened on: 02 Jan 2023.
- Applications close on: 13 Mar 2023.
- Start date: 27 Mar 2023.

[Find out more and apply here.](#)

2. National Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Recruitment 2024-25 via Oriel [Action]



- Applications are now open via the Oriel IT platform for the National Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Recruitment Scheme for the 2024-25 training year.
- Whether you are training a foundation trainee pharmacist (formerly known as pre-registration pharmacist) now, have done previously and would like to do this again, thinking of doing this for the first time or would like to know more, please read on.

Cross-sector foundation trainee pharmacist training programmes

- Applications for cross-sector foundation trainee pharmacist training programmes in community and hospital pharmacy are being co-ordinated by the Somerset pharmacist workforce development lead. The benefit of this approach is that we can link employers and partners together to provide cross-sector training partnerships.
- If you would like to participate in a community-hospital pharmacy foundation training partnerships in 2024-25, either as an employer or a placement partner, or would like to know more about what this involves, please email: Juliet Barrowman, Somerset pharmacist workforce development lead at: Juliet.barrowman@ydh.nhs.uk by **13 Feb 2023 at the latest (but earlier please, if possible)**.

Community pharmacy single-sector foundation trainee pharmacist training programmes

- Details of how to proceed are outlined below.

Foundation training resources available from Health Education England include:

- **Employer Guidance** including an [Employer handbook](#) and a [short video](#) to support employers with registering to participate and further details and online form at the [Employer registration page](#).
- On this page you will also find a link to [information submitted by employers in 2022](#).

Submission Deadline

- The deadline to submit form(s) is **11.59pm on 01 Mar 2023 (late submissions will not be accepted)**.
- Employers who have submitted an expression of interest (EOI) form for any HEEGP 2024-25 foundation training programmes will be notified by the HEEGP by 20 Jan if your EOI has been successful – there is no need to submit the place to Oriel.

3. HEE Clinical examination skills training for community pharmacists – we strongly advise you to take up this funded opportunity – limited places available [Action]



- Clinical examination skills training to increase the confidence of community pharmacists to manage the types of clinical cases that are increasingly presenting in the community pharmacy setting is now available.
- Content is being delivered in a flexible way designed to meet the needs of community pharmacists.
- The training will consist of a series of short modules based on 4 key themes:
 - Dermatology
 - Cardiology
 - Ear, Nose and Throat
 - Paediatrics
- All modules will end with an assessment and pharmacists will be given a certificate of completion when they pass.
- Before accessing the modules pharmacists will be required to complete a 'gateway module' on structured history taking and identification of serious conditions.
- Training to be delivered between now and March 2024. We would encourage all community pharmacists to take up this fantastic opportunity. For those of you who are considering doing your independent prescribing training, completing these modules will put you in a great starting place.
- To find out more and register your interest in this training, please [click here](#).

4. CPPE Leading for change [Information]

- The fully funded [CPPE Leading for Change programme](#) is open to pharmacy professionals from all sectors of practice, including community pharmacy.
- If you have responsibility for leading a team or leading services within your organisation and would like to develop your skills further, then *Leading for Change* is for you.

Course dates:

- There will be six cohorts of the programme running in 2023, starting in March, April and May.

Feedback from previous attendees:

- "This course made me realise that I need to think strategically more often or rather make it a natural way of thinking from now onwards. I am more aware of other staff members who are leaders and their leadership style."
- "I am going to deal with conflict more effectively. This course has made me actively acknowledge the fact that my main strategy for 'resolving' conflict, has always been to avoid it completely."
- [Find out more and apply here](#).

5. CPPE online workshops for your Continuing Professional Development – book now! [Action]

**ACTION
REQUIRED**

CPPE Online Workshops

January - March 2023

CPPE 
CENTRE FOR PHARMACY
POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

Please [click here](#) to view all CPPE workshops

6. Somerset Emotional Wellbeing (SEW) [Information]

- A series of [Mental and emotional wellbeing support podcasts](#) has been provided by Dr Andrew Tresidder, Pastoral Care Cell Clinical Lead, Somerset CCG & Dr Peter Bagshaw, Somerset CCG to support everyone working in healthcare.
- New episode(s):
 - [Building resilience](#)
 - [Dementia update 2023](#)
 - [100th birthday party!](#)



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